be taken to prevent the area from pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) In some portions of the coastal areas around Bombay, such as the Thane Creek, Tarapur, Bassien Creek and Dharamstar, the sea water quality has deteriorated due to the discharge of industrial wastes and domestic sewage.

(b) The steps taken to prevent the area from pollution include the following:

1. The total waste water from Bombay city discharged into the sea is about 2500 MLD. Bombay Municipal Corporation is implementing a scheme for collection, treatment and disposal of sewage prior to discharge into the sea.

2. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has initiated steps for controlling water pollution from industries and local bodies along the coast, as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

3. Legal action is taken against defaulting units. Cases have been filed against 152 industries in the coastal belt for violating the consent conditions.

4. Maharashtra Industries Development Corporation (MIDC)has industrial estates along the cost. The MIDC authorities have been asked to provide common effluent collection and disposal systems in the industrial estates. Disposal systems at the following industriale states have been reported to have been completed.

a) Thane—Belapur

b) Saravli (Near Kalyan)

c) Patal Ganga (Raigad district)

d) Roha (Raigad)

e) Dombivli (Thane)

f) Tarapur (Thane)

g) Mahad (Thane)

5. In Maharashtra Industries Development Corporation (MIDC) areas, water supply connection to the industries is not given till the effluent treatment and disposal arrangements are provided by the industries as per the conditions prescribed under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The arrangements are verified by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board(MPCB) and only on the recommendations from the MPCB water supply for production purposes is given by MIDC.

6. Schemes for common effluent treatment plants for clusters of small scale industries located at Thane Belapur and Tarapur areas, have been worked out.

7. Government has notified coastal zone regulations under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 with a view to regulate impact on the coastline. This would reduce discharge of pollutants into the coastal waters of Maharashtra, particularly at Bombay.

Amount Spent on Afforestation Programme

3150. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on afforestation

programme during each of the last three years in different States; and

(b) the extent of increase taken place in the forest area during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The amount spent on afforestation/tree planting activities under the 20—Point Programme during the last three years is as given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

1988—89	588.36
1989—90	506.87
1990—91	612.86*

* Tentative

(b) The Forest Survey of India carries out periodical assessment of increase/decrease of forest areas in the country. The assessment for the last three years has not been finalised.

Konkan Rail Project

3151. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of the Konkan Rail Project so far;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government for the expeditious completion of the project; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Work on Construction of the Konkan Rail Project has been entrusted to an autonomous body 'Konkan Railway Corporation'. Work on Roha to Dasgaon and Mangalore to Udipi sections is expected to be completed by June'92. Work on other sections is in progress.

(b) All assistance is given by the Ministry of Railways to the Corporation in expeditious completion of the project.

(c) The time of completion of the Project will depend on the availability of funds.

[*Translation*]

Research in Vedic Mathematics

3152. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote research in Vedic mathematics; and

(b) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Government with the help of Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry has taken following steps to promote research in vedic mathematics and organised:—

— Two Workshops and one Round Table discussion respectively at Jaipur, Ahmedabad and Delhi

— A Conference—cum—workshop at Bangalore in joint collaboration between Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan and Abhinav Vidya Bharati.

— Commissioned three monographs on vedic mathematics.